

2013 Needs Assessment for Etowah County

Honorable William D. Russell
Etowah County District Court
801 Forrest Avenue
Gadsden, AL 35903

Rep. Mack Butler	Julie Nix	Vernon Dolberry	Misty Ledbetter
Gary Lewis	Lanny Handy	Mary Izner	Vicki Smith
James Adams	Rep. Becky Nordgren	Susan Reid	Nancy Temple
Phillip Gambling	Mike Campbell	Kathy Donahue	Rebecca Webber
Dr. E.M. Lindsey	District Attorney	Marie Johnson	Jimmie Tinker
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Denise Lumpkin	Overstreet	Mark Johnson	Cherlyn Stowe A.D.A.
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Yolanda Martinez	Gary Owens	Michael Johnson	Jan Street
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Leon Goodwyn	Cyndy Henderson	Brenda Dunning	Sen. Phil Williams
Becky McCants	Trish Pankey	Barbara Roberts	Corp. Seth Sullivan
Codi Ball	Hon. Will Clay	Sheriff Todd Entriken	Larry Weathers
Jennifer Grace	Joan Henry	Edith Kile	Becky Word
Dr. Micheal	Dana Pannell	Debra Seagraves	Trooper Curtis
McClellan	Lisa Cleghorn	Brenda Epperson	Summerville
Sandra Biddy	Emma Hereford	Cindy Kirkland	Lora Weaver
Jim Greene	Deborah Parks	Dr. David Shehi	Summer Quinn
Pastor Kipp McClury	David Collins	Debra Estes	Patricia Falcon
Sgt. Russell Brand	Katrina Herring	Jenny Klingenberg	Tonya Laughlin
Ava Gregory	Kim Payne	Kassie Shields	Trace Fleming Smith
Jessica Millican	Agnes Cole	LeRoy Falcon	Felicia Padgett
Elizabeth Griswold	Janet Hill	Suzie Krueger	Rachel Cranford
Al Murray	Andrew Perkins	Dianne Short	Becky Ellis
Debra Guyton	Superintendent Alan Crosby	Ashley Findley	
Susan Carter	Susan Hood	Willie Simmons	
Jamie Hammond	Andy Powell	Rep. Craig Ford	
Ricky Nauhten	Kathy Denson	Superintendent Ray	
Manny Chaw	Officer Mike Hooks	Lander	
Eve Hamrick	Dee Pruett	Emily Sims	

Accomplishments

Held a health screening/health fair at a city wide summer program for students ages four to twelve (kindergarten through sixth grade). Saw a total of 90 children and made 70 referrals. This included referrals for vision, dental, hearing and blood pressure. Gave out bags to all 90 children with information on various programs including All Kids/Medicaid, Legal Services, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, YMCA, Sarrell Dental, Boys & Girls Club, United Way, Family Success Center and Tobacco Prevention.

Held a celebrate safely campaign for graduating seniors. Held a program at two local high schools (one county and one city school) with 500 graduating seniors about celebrating safely on graduation night and the effects of drug and alcohol. Gave out bracelets as a reminder to 500 graduating seniors with the word GRAD meaning Graduates Resisting Alcohol and Drugs.

Created activity books with various members of the Children's Policy Council to give out to children at the health fairs on behalf of the Children's Policy Council. Had 1000 activity books made to give out that consisted of coloring sheets, activity pages and informational sheets for parents about the Council and various member agencies.

Set up a health screening/health fair at the YMCA summer camp for July 2013.

Hosted the regional Children's Policy Council meeting in December 2012.

Updated community resource cards and had 3000 printed and given out to member agencies and for use at health fairs/community outreach events.

Set up a website for the Etowah County Children's Policy Council.

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First Priority

Need related to children of this county

Children need to be successful in school.

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Comprehensive health screenings at the elementary, middle and high schools by Children's Policy Council. Health and developmental screenings in day care facilities by Children's Policy Council. Celebrate Safely campaign with senior classes at local high schools addressing the need for safety around graduation and anytime in resisting drugs and alcohol. Partnerships of local schools, daycares, community agencies, local government and Children's Policy Council.	Funding to provide larger events for the local communities for screenings and health fairs for all ages.

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

Continue comprehensive health screenings at the elementary, middle and high schools in the county.

Continue health and developmental screenings at the local day care facilities in the county.

Partner with various agencies to provide small scale health fairs/screenings at the local schools and community agencies.

Continue the celebrate safely campaign with graduating seniors and expand in to all local schools.

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Second Priority

Need related to children of this county

Families need to be strong and stable.

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Partnership among community agencies, governmental departments, local schools and Children's Policy Council. Alabama Healthy Marriage Initiative offers free classes on relationships, marriage and parenting. Family Success Center offers free counseling, budget/financial counseling, parenting classes and child abuse prevention services. Gadsden Career Center offers various programs, job trainings and job searches. Various agencies offer family oriented activities and support for the entire family.	Funding for additional literature and programs to educate the community and assist them in becoming stronger, more stable families through economic security, emotional stability and healthy relationships. Additional affordable child care services and after school activities for school age children.

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

Continue to partner with community agencies, local government and schools within the county to raise awareness regarding available resources.

Continue to partner with agencies and programs that promote strong families such as the Alabama Healthy Marriage Initiative and the Family Success Center.

Partner with various agencies to provide outreach events to better educate the community. Spread the word about available free programs in the community that provide various services to help strengthen the family.

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Third Priority

Need related to children of this county

Families need to be positively engaged in their children's lives and hopeful for their futures.

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Partnership among the community agencies, government, local schools and Children's Policy Council. Gadsden Public Library offers computer classes, free story time, activities for all ages to participate with families. Imagination Library offers free books monthly to all children ages 0 to 5 in the county.	More family based activities that are low cost or no cost in the community.

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

Partner with local schools to hold job fairs or reality check programs for high school students.

Continue to partner with local agencies and the community to raise awareness of the available resources to meet this and other needs in the community.

Partner with various agencies to provide outreach events to better educate the community on various topics.